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# SOCCER WORLD

THE VOICE OF  
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

15c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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November 29, 1968.

Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL  
CHOCOLATES

## HAKOAH DOMINATE OUR ANNUAL "OSCARS"

Hakoah reaped a rich harvest in our end-of-year honors.

They have been judged the best team, their coach, Doug Holden, the best coach, Allan Marnoch the best player and Dennis Yaager the most improved player.

Had the Rutherford brothers come here just a little earlier, one of them would have been certain to gain the title of "best arrival."

Neither APIA nor St. George-Budapest, two of the giants of recent years, figure in the major honors list.

See details on page 3.



Allan Marnoch with the Ampol Cup, the first of Hakoah's many trophies in 1968.

## Executive unlikely to resign

There is a chance that the threatened resignation of some Executive members will not take place if Tom Grimson is re-elected.

At least two Executive members had a change of heart and are likely to stay. President Jim Bayutti is not certain yet what he will do.

"I will resign when it suits me," he said this week.

"We have no personal objection to Tom Grimson and it was he who wanted to leave the Executive, not us.

"It was over a matter of policy and not a personal disagreement."

Grimson's re-election is almost certain especially now that Andy Burton may withdraw his nomination in the last minute.

Negotiations are reportedly going on to bridge the "ideological gap" between Grimson and some other Executive members.

If this succeeds, the storm in the teacup may blow over by January.

Should they fail to patch up their differences, Grimson would be expected to join John Thomson as a minority voice of the Executive.

## SO LONG— TILL 1969

This is our last issue for 1968; SOCCER WORLD will start publishing again on January 17 next year.

And we'll have many pleasant surprises for our readers regarding the improved contents and appearance of the paper in its 12th year of uninterrupted publication.

If your subscription runs from January to November 29, you can send in your \$8.00 renewal now (form on page 2) and be sure of getting the first copy on time.

We take this opportunity of wishing all our readers and advertisers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

## Nothing fixed for next year's tours

Greece is reportedly interested to play four matches here in 1969 — and Northern Ireland may visit us in 1970.

The Greeks would play only two matches apiece in Sydney and Melbourne.

The other States, however, may force a change in these plans.

Regrettably, but not unusually, nothing is certain about the Greek visit.

The Irish were officially invited for 1970 by New Zealand Tour Director

Charles Dempsey while at the FIFA Congress in Guadalajara.

His invitation was on behalf of New Zealand and Australia.

However, Northern Ireland's visit depends on how they fare in the World Cup elimination matches where their opponents are Russia and Turkey.

It's a pity that our administrators entrusted with the shaping of our "foreign policy" can never mend their muddling ways.

In order to plan ahead, all States should know by now whether —

- Greece will, in fact, come;
- Australia will even consider entering the 1969 Merdeka Tournament;

● Is any other touring team likely to visit here in 1969;

● What preparations are being made for our World Cup qualifying matches in 1969.

These are basically the responsibilities of the ASF and its sub-committees.

And once again, it appears they are not doing their homework properly.

## SEVERAL STARS ARE LIKELY TO TRANSFER

A great number of leading players may change clubs in the next two or three months.

Some are certain to fetch high transfer fees though John Watkiss' \$8,000 is unlikely to be reached.

APIA's Archie Blue and Johnny Giacometti are transfer-listed at \$7,000 and \$3,000 respectively.

Les Schauman of St. George can be had for \$2,000.

Hakoah, overloaded with players, are certain to release some — Trevor Edwards, Graham Barnett and Red Edmunds may be among them.

The recent players' "revolt" in Pan Hellenic over the aborted Pacific cruise could lead to a mass exodus.

Johnston, Westwater, Laraman, Logan, Karyannis and Omeros may ask and be granted transfers.



# SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

The 1969 Ampol Cup will start a week earlier than planned. The series will kick-off on Sunday, January 26 with a double-header at Wentworth Park. Matches will be played on Sundays and Wednesdays.

The Sydney SECOND DIVISION clubs will hold their annual meeting at the Western Suburbs Soccer Club on Monday, December 2. Office-bearers for 1969 will be elected. Visitors and observers welcome.

How others see AUSTRALIAN RULES football: "Australian Rules is an attractive game to watch. The chief ingredient of footy's popularity, I believe is its chanceiness. It is pre-eminently a children's game. I don't think the game will last. It will pass with the youth and innocence of Australia." This gem appeared in "Send her down, Hughie", a book about Australia by the American author, Arthur Clifford.

The wife of HECTOR PUEBLAS, the St. George-Budapest winger, is seriously ill in Argentina. Pueblas may be forced to return home soon at least for a visit.

It is now almost certain that GEORGE KEITH, rated by many as Australia's top fullback, will move to Sydney next season. The Scottish-born Hakoah-Melbourne, Victorian and Australian star may bring a record Australian transfer fee for a defender.

JOHNNY GIACOMETTI's next club may be Second Division Marconi, reportedly making an all-out bid for promotion in 1969.

Hakoah were such a big hit in NEW CALEDONIA that their two visits, when they remained unbeaten, that they have been ex-

tended an open invitation to return every year. The Sydney champs, however, are keen to return the hospitality and will try to bring the islanders to NSW for a short tour towards the end of next year.

APIA have a virtual new management committee for next season. At this week's AGM Sergio Asquini was elected president in place of Eddie Provera, who did not seek re-election. New secretary is Vince Pascala.

An indignant Gordon Stratford, secretary of Western Suburbs, yesterday strongly denied his club was negotiating with Everton's TOM EGGLESTON. "There is no move within the club to depose coach Joe Marston", Stratford said. Eggleston, he said, had only corresponded privately with a club member, and had intimated to him he would be interested to come to Australia.

ALLAN MARNOCH, winner of the 1968 "Soccer World"-Flotta Lauro Player of the Year award is likely to present his prize — a six-day cruise to New Zealand — to his mother.

JIMMY PEARSON, the former Pan Hellenic and Australian World Cup forward, has decided not to return to Australia before at least two years. Pearson at the moment is in two minds whether to remain in South Africa or to return to his native Scotland for an extensive coaching course.

The Western Australian Federation has shelved plans to sponsor the MALAYSIAN national team, winner of this year's Merdeka Cup, to Australia early next year. Just as well if the recent Australia Cup fiasco involving Hakoah-Sydney and Azzurri-Perth was any indication of WA's organising capacities...

Melita Eagles' DAVE GOLLIE, now in Britain on holidays, is confident he can entice a couple of fellow Scotsmen back to Australia to join his club in 1969. Melita, incidentally, still haven't chosen a coach for next year. Joe Vlasits, however, is adamant he has left them for good.

The CAMBODIAN national team, which held Australia to a 0-0 draw at Phnom-Penh in 1965, is keen to include Australia on the itinerary of its proposed Southeast Asian tour in March. The Cambodians have arranged matches in Malaysia, Singapore, Burma and Indonesia. Cambodia next month will meet the full East German national XI at Phnom-Penh.

St. George-Budapest have placed SCHAUMAN, McCOLGAN, TELFER and PIGGOTT on the transfer list.

The NSW COACHES Federation will stage their monthly general meeting at the Western Suburbs Soccer Club, Five Dock, next Monday, December 2, at 8 p.m. "Soccer World" news editor, Lou Gautier, will relate his impressions on the Olympic Games in the course of the evening.

The NORTHERN DISTRICTS Sporting Promotions Club proudly announces that the new Recreation Area and enclosed Sportsground at Jenner Road, West Pennant Hills, is now completed. The project comprises cricket practice wickets, a football field with Wembley dimensions, a practice shooting wall and a swimming pool. The buildings include two dressing-rooms, a gymnasium, first aid room, referee's room, office, refreshments room, and change rooms for swimmers, all on

## STOP PRESS

Len Willmer was appointed as full-time paid secretary of the Victorian Soccer Federation this week.

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# 1968 wasn't as bad as all that...

— By PAUL DEAN —

It's a far from easy task to sum-up, in so brief a space, the 1968 season which had some splendid heights — and abysmal depths. The domestic front was, for a long time, a happy one. The Ampol Cup and the championship went off without a hitch, without one single disturbance.

Due to a number of reasons, crowds began to return to the terraces and the final count showed a whacking 35 percent increase in attendances.

It was, by any reckoning, a boom year. The average standard of the Sydney championship matches was fairly high, in some cases pleasingly good.

An increasing number of clubs began to realise the immense significance of proper coaching and the grooming of youngsters: never before in Federation history did we have more promising juniors than today.

While on the subject of coaching: the State and Australian coaching organisations also enjoyed a fine year, highlighted by the eye-opening visit of FIFA's Dettmar Cramer.

These organisations are working quietly in the background — but gradually are breaking through towards general recognition.

So too the districts which, in 1968, appeared to come out of their long slumber.

All over Sydney district clubs — senior and junior — are moving ahead with new vigor and enterprise; some acquiring social clubs, others building their own grounds.

Hand in hand with this tremendously vital progress goes the constant increase in the number of boys playing soccer; hardly an association in the metropolitan area can report a backslide.

These, to us, are the healthiest signs our soccer has shown for years, promising a really brighter future.

Unfortunately, the closer you look to the so-called nucleus of our soccer pyramid, the dimmer the picture becomes.

Quite a number of senior clubs are struggling desperately to keep their head above water — and here I don't only refer to the three who only recently were publicly carpeted, humiliated and all but expelled.

The Federation's administration, in routine matters, could hardly be faulted, due largely to the efficiency and integrity of the secretariat.

Unfortunately, in other fields they have been less successful.

Far too many of our leading administrators are merely talkers, not doers; detailed planning for them is a crushing bore.

It is in this department that the Executive must make major improvements if it wants to heal the recent wounds caused perhaps more by tactlessness than by anything else.

They must abandon the notion that only very successful businessmen can possibly run a soccer organisation; that affluency and know-how in a trade or profession can be converted into sporting intelligence.

Their first task should be to bring about a full reconciliation with the ASF.

This is possible only if we re-appraise the basic problems, show understanding towards the other States — and forget who said what to whom and why, mostly in the heat of the moment.

It is in soccer's interest that NSW and the ASF should work in the closest possible harmony; if the ASF is in need of repairs — which everybody admits is the case — let's not try to destroy the whole structure with the zeal of ancient crusaders.

Just how important the ASF's role is could be seen from the far from perfect tour arrangements in 1968.

Both Cardiff City and Japan were brought out to Australia as substitutes, without proper preparation and planning.

● (Continued on Page 7)

# JUNIORS MUST INTEGRATE INTO BIG CLUBS

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

A lot of notice will be taken of the recommendations made by Sydney Amateur secretary Brian Emery concerning conduct of junior football and integration of juniors into the top clubs.

It is no secret that the juniors, built on district lines and flexing their developing muscles, conjure up the future of football largely as a district affair.

Dual registrations, under which many Inter-District representative boys have been operating for a season.

An extension of the system to permit this practice until July 3 in any season is proposed.

Emery makes it clear that it is high time for the seniors to develop the stability that Sydney junior football has attained.

The amateurs see the Inter-District under 16, 15 and 14 grades as the means of assisting the district clubs.

For Queen's Birthday 1969, Emery recommends that the 14 Sydney Associations each send a leading under-12 team to the country.

Each would be accompanied by a coach from the Coaches' Federation, and a suitable referee.

The coaches would have the teams available for demonstrations, and the referees would be specially chosen for their instructional ability.

His proposed method for running the State Championship finals could be a winner all the way.

The scheme calls for the State Finals to be played in the August - September school holidays.

The four Country branch winners in each grade up to under-16 would come to Sydney and play in a competition with the two leading Sydney teams.

Each team would play the other in a round-robin, with the winner being adjudged State Champion.

Some team managers and coaches might find it difficult to be available for the full week, but doubtless the majority would make it.

At the same time an inter-branch championship in each age group could be played.

What with the "Champion of Champions" series, the big school program for primary and secondary schools, the Tasman Cup, advancing coaching courses and standards, and cadet refereeing, the boys are certainly getting a soccer education that should provide much more valuable material for the senior club



# Soccer World's 1968 honors

Who were the best, who the fairest? This is an appropriate question now, with the season over and the year running out fast. These were our choices:

## Best team: HAKOAH

There can be little doubt about this choice: Hakoah stood out not only in Sydney but the whole of Australia, winning everything in sight.

Finally, after years of frustration, they managed to bring together just the right ingredients for a highly efficient, extremely well balanced team with a professional look about it.

Hakoah seldom sparkled. On the other hand, they hardly ever really faltered either.

They played always close to their maximum potential, usually unhurried and unruffled, even when down by the odd goal.

It will be a major task for them to repeat some of their 1968 victories next year.

## Best player: Marnoch (Hakoah)

This mighty stopper epitomised Hakoah's impregnable defensive fortifications all through their victorious year.

Standing in front of his goal like a modern-day Goliath, Marnoch at times held together Hakoah's defence almost singlehanded.

Equally comfortable in the air or on the ground, Marnoch usually played a real captain's game.

It's a pity that for one reason or another, he could not show his mettle against Japan where his clashes with the brilliant Kamamoto would have been extraordinarily thrilling.

Also considered: Scheinflug (Prague), Rafanelli (Yugal), Brian Smith (Pan Hellenic), Reynolds (Croatia), Dzialach (Polonia).

## Most improved player: D. Yaager (Hakoah)

It was in 1968 that Yaager finally fulfilled the promise of earlier years.



The trick that did it for him was a shift from forwards to wing-half where he can roam more freely.

Hakoah's midfield domination in most matches was largely due to his fantastic work capacity and ability to pump many excellent passes to his forwards.

Also considered: Campbell (APIA), Tracey (Prague), G. Manuel (Prague), Nacinovic (Yugal).

## Best clubman: McCulloch (Pan Hellenic)

Under-rated at the start of the season, Pan Hellenic's quiet, soft-spoken Scottish halfback emerged as one of his team's vital cogs.

Here was the best type of clubman, giving sterling, selfless service, and hardly ever turning in an indifferent display.

Also considered: Blanco (Prague), Hillsdon (Hakoah), De Bruin (Melita Eagles).

## Best prospect: Quested (Melita)

This Melita Eagles "whiz-kid" is the son of a famous father, Auburn's Len Quested.

He seems all set to keep the family name in the forefront of Sydney soccer for many years if the exciting talent he displayed in 1968 is any indication of things to come.

Also considered: Guerrero (Croatia), Tony Edwards (Melita Eagles), Willcox (Prague), Clarke (Croatia).

## Best arrival: LOUKANIDIS (Pan Hellenic)

Best? Certainly the most valuable, controversial, colorful — and talked about. May be even the best.

He played only nine championship matches, some very good, some indifferent — but never did he fail to pack

the stands with the magic of his name, as a former international ace.

There is little doubt that Loukanidis was past his prime in Australia.

However, even so he made his contribution to Pan Hellenic's success.

Also considered: W. Rutherford, H. Rutherford, Gardiner (all Hakoah), Wright (Croatia), Anderson (SCU), Stripelis (Canterbury).

## Greatest loss: R. Blitz (Pan Hellenic)

With his departure to England, Sydney has probably lost for good one of its most talented wingers of all times.

When the mood struck him, Blitz could be absolutely devastating, cutting in and out from the flanks and scoring some magnificent goals on the run.



He was more effective in Prague than in Pan Hellenic, mainly because he always felt more at home in a ball-playing combination.

Blitz played many times in the NSW and Australian teams, including in our World Cup matches in Cambodia in 1965.

Also considered: Campana (returning to Argentina), Coljazzo (returning to Argentina), Massey (retired), Wright, Giles (returning to Newcastle).

## Best coach: D. Holden (Hakoah)

It would be impossible — and totally unfair — to go past Holden; after all, his team won every conceivable honor there is.



What does make his feat more remarkable is that he achieved it in his first season as coach, after retiring from active playing following a brilliant career stretching over 16 years or more.

Probably because of his quiet, soft-spoken personality, Holden tended to be overlooked as a top coach even during 1968.

But he proved his skill with the team which never played better than under his care.

One more thing demands to be said about Holden: win or lose, even minutes after a match, he was always collected, coherent and absolutely fair in his praise or criticism.

As a player he was an asset; as a coach he is a tremendous gain.

Also considered: W. Tamandl (Pan Hellenic), J. Venglos (Prague).

## Best Div. II team: Auburn



Z. NOWACKI  
Auburn's coach.

This honor must go to Auburn as they not only gained promotion, but proved their slight superiority over the rest of the bunched up field by taking out the Grand Final as well.

Also considered: Western Suburbs.

## Best Div. II player: BIJKERK (West's)

In the Second Division it was also a centre-half who emerged as the season's most outstanding performer.

West's Jan Bijkerk, barely out of his teens, impresses as a rare talent who should challenge for State and national representative honors in the near future with a teacher like Joe Marston to polish off his few remaining rough edges.

Also considered: Pont (West's), O'Neill (Auburn), Thomson (Auburn), Bamforth (Bankstown), A. Tamandl (Granville).

## Best touring player: KAMAMOTO (Japan)

Australian fans last March were deeply impressed by the extraordinary skill of this tall Japanese forward whom we

classified as one of the best ever to play here.

Our views, bordering on the heretical, were fully confirmed recently when Kamamoto dazzled the world's press at the Mexico Olympic Games.

His suppleness, speed, ball control, shooting power and heading are all well above average.

The goal he headed in Sydney, bouncing the ball down hard to the ground and completely deceiving Corry was one of the cleverest ever scored at the venerable Sportsground.

Also considered: Sugiyama, Yokoyama, Yamaguchi (Japan), Jones, Dean (Cardiff).

## Best referee: A. BOSKOVIC

It may be tedious, year after year, to drag out the same name but this is not our fault: Boskovic, in our view, is simply Australia's best referee.

In fact his performances keep getting better, so much so that he is a hot tip to be invited by FIFA to the 1970 World Cup finals.

Having shed most of his youthful theatrical gestures, Boskovic can and does control a match with speed, firmness and fairness.

He is "seen" less and less during a match — the surest sign of a top referee.

Also considered: Harold Parsons.

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## PAST HONORS LISTS

1964	1965	1966	1967
Best team: APIA	APIA	APIA	St. George
Best player: T. Edwards (Hak.)	Hughes (APIA)	Campana (APIA)	Watkins (APIA)
Most improved player: Schaefer (St. Geo.)	Todd (St. George)	Sambrook (APIA)	R. Cush (Croatia)
Best prospect: R. Cush (Croatia)	Roberts (APIA)	Freeme (S. Coast)	Morgan (St. George)
Best clubman:		Bottalico (APIA)	Scheinflug (Prague)
Most valuable arrival: Cambal (Prague)	Campana (APIA)	Duffy (Hakoah)	Baartz (Hakoah)
Greatest loss: Stokes (St. George)		Yardley (St. George)	Isaac (St. George)
Best match: St. George v. Pan Hellenic 6-5 (Fed. Cup)	P. Hellenic v. Polonia 5-4 (3rd releg play off)	APIA v. Hakoah 2-0 (Australia Cup Final)	St. George v. APIA 5-2 (Grand Final)
	Corinthians	Polonia	Manly
Best Div. II team:	Cilia (Melita Eagles)	Krawiarz (Polonia)	Bamforth (Bankstown)
Best Div. II player:	Jelisavcic (Hakoah)	Marston (APIA)	Hegyes (St. George)
Best coach: Polgar (APIA)	Boskovic	Parsons	Boskovic
Best referee: Eilerts			



# New World Cup fiasco looming on horizon

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Unless we get cracking at once with our World Cup preparations, it will be an utter waste of time and money even to compete in the elimination rounds.

Of this I am more convinced than ever after seeing our main rivals, Japan, in action at the Olympic Games.

As I pointed out from Mexico, the Japanese in recent months have forged way ahead of Australia in every department.

Only 12 months ago, flushed with the superb success of our national team at the Saigon Tournament, Australia was just about on a par with Japan, as far as playing strength goes, — because as far as administration is concerned, they have been miles out in front for years.

Already in April this year Japan showed they had edged ahead of us.

Though the three-match series in Australia officially resulted in a tie, there was never any doubt as to which was the better team.

In Mexico they have demonstrated with shattering impact that they have now left us hopelessly behind.

They drove the point home eloquently by winning the bronze medal — a feat Australia could never have achieved.

Australia at this stage could never have defeated Mexico 2-0, anywhere — let alone in Mexico City.

It would also have been out of the question for Australia to hold Spain, Western Europe's best amateur outfit, to a draw, or beat France, a close runner-up to Spain in the European "lily-white" hierarchy.

## MEXICAN TOUR

I also doubt whether Australia could have played a draw with Brazil, for all its untalented amateurs from obscure provinces, though I do concede that our Australian team could have forced a narrow win over Nigeria, Japan's victims in the opening Olympic match.

In other words, had Australia gone to the Olympics instead of Japan, the best we could have hoped for was third place in our preliminary group — and that only if our team had undergone intensive pre-Olympic training, which, as we only know too well, would have been, unfortunately, very unlikely.

By the time we meet Japan in the World Cup elimination round-robin 11 months from now, it's safe to assume that the Japanese will have forged even further ahead, leaving Australia hopelessly behind.

The Japanese, far from resting on their laurels after their stupendous Olympic achievements, are more determined than ever to continue their climb towards full world class status which, frankly, still eludes them at the moment despite their bronze medal in Mexico.

Coach Shunishiro Okano told me in Mexico his squad would follow the same intensive training for the World Cup as they did before the Olympic Games.

This means that the players, all of whom are now Tokyo-based, will train together every evening, as from the start of the new year.

For March-April the Japanese, who were such a hit with the Mexican soccer fans, have been invited to return to Mexico for a series of matches in Mexico City, Guadalajara, Leon and Puebla.

Japan, you will recall, also toured Mexico at the same time this year, before coming to Australia.

Then they had been trounced 4-0 by the same Mexican

Olympic team they beat 2-0 for the bronze medal seven months later.

Surely an indication of Japan's capacity to learn quickly to correct mistakes through pain-staking research.

In August the Japanese team will enter the Merdeka Tournament — the first time the Japanese FA will accept to send their top side to Kuala Lumpur (this year a third-string Japanese XI participated).

The Japanese realise full well that the Merdeka will be an ideal testing ground before their World Cup elimination battles since South Korea, who are also in our World Cup sub-group, will be there too.

The Japanese, in contrast to Australian officialdom, don't have to be told that international competition at an accelerated rate before any important series of matches is vital.

## MERDEKA

This obviously Australia hasn't learnt because at this stage we know of no plans to send the Australian national team to the Merdeka Tournament in mid-August.

Surely, even the most obtuse of our soccer officials must realise that Australia's participation in the Merdeka Tournament is an absolute must next year if we are to have even a remote chance of putting on a reasonable showing three months later when we have to tackle the Japanese and South Koreans on their home grounds.

It would be wrong to think that Japan, and Japan alone, is the team to beat in the World Cup.

South Korea is also in our sub-group, a South Korean team we may have beaten in the 1967 Saigon final, but a team which was only eliminated from an Olympic berth by Japan on goal-average.

You can rest assured that the South Koreans, despite their 3-0 Merdeka defeat by Western Australia in August, will tackle the World Cup eliminations with solid preparation behind them, vowing to square accounts with their recent conquerors.

A win in the World Cup sub-group, however, only gets the winner half-way to Mexico.

There is still North Korea or Israel to meet before the Asia-Oceania World Cup finalist is determined.

Even if North Korea drops out — which is not all that certain when one considers that almost every one half expected them not to turn up in Cambodia in 1965 only to find them settled in Phnom-Penh days before Australia arrived — there is still Israel to overcome.

And Israel will be no push-over, let me assure you.

The Israelis were one of the major revelations at the Olympics with wins over Ghana and El Salvador and a narrow 2-0 loss to Hungary before holding Bulgaria to a 1-1 draw in the quarterfinals, bowing out when they were unlucky enough to draw the wrong lot after 30 minutes of extra-time.

Can you imagine even the most rationally prepared Australian team achieving similar results against teams of the calibre of Hungary and Bulgaria, the two Olympic finalists?

# COLIN STEIN IS NEW SCOT HERO

Colin Stein, the 21-year-old centre-forward Rangers signed recently from Hibernian for £100,000, is the most exciting player in Scotland today.

In the past weeks he has played in two games and in each of them he has scored three goals.

There were those who thought that the three Stein scored against Arbroath at Gayfield Park meant little, for the opposition was provided by a part-time team who had taken only one point from their eight preceding games and already seemed doomed to return to the Second Division.

But at Ibrox Stadium last Saturday week Stein made the critics retract their words on his second appearance for Rangers, when he whipped in three goals against his former colleagues, a more experienced team who provided a more exacting test.

Who is this remarkable young man?

He lives in Linlithgow, the birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots, and was signed by Hibernian's manager, Bob Shankly, in 1965 from the West Lothian junior club, Armadale Thistle.

He stands 5ft. 9in. tall and weighs around 11st.

He began with Armadale at left-back, but soon switched to centre-forward.

This proved his natural role and it was for this position Hibernian signed him.

In the three seasons he was with Hibernian the club were never lower than fifth from the top of the league.

Last season, in which he was capped against England, he was Hibernian's leading scorer with 30 goals and he already had nine to his credit this season before he left Easter Road, Edinburgh, for Ibrox.

But why his apparently sudden transformation from being just another club centre-forward with a sharp eye and a strong shot into a glamorous personality?

For without doubt he has captured the imagination of the host of Scottish football followers, among whom in pubs and clubs, workshops and factories his marksmanship for Rangers is a recurring topic of conversation.

There are several reasons for his meteoric rise to fame, but perhaps the overriding one is that — as he himself has said — it had been his ambition since his schooldays to play for Rangers.

Now he is in an environment in which he feels he can do even better.

All this goes to show the herculean task which faces Australia in the World Cup.

A task possibly beyond us even if we are to drastically mend our muddled ways.

Our 1965 World Cup fiasco in Cambodia could be written off for inexperience as it was Australia's first venture into the international soccer arena.

## REVALUATION

But what valid reason could we offer if history repeats itself in 1969, except that we haven't learnt a thing in four years?

Unless there is a drastic revaluation in the vital importance of the Australian national team, I'm afraid we will be flirting with disaster when our moment of truth comes around next October.

Unless we are prepared to sink infinitely more thought, effort and money into preparing our perilous World Cup venture, the only decent thing to do is to pull out immediately and notify FIFA without further delay that Australia is just simply not a mature enough soccer nation to partake in one of the world's greatest sporting events.

However deplorable and shaming, such a move would at least show that Australian soccer was facing up to reality.

We would be honestly admitting our failure to the rest of the world, which would be a thousand times better than the bungling, indecision and sickening shambles that appear to be in store for us as the World Cup deadline approaches.

## READERS' LETTERS

# LET'S TRY FOR THE OLYMPICS

Could somebody please tell me why Australia does not try to qualify for the Olympic soccer tournament?

Officially our soccer is not professional, semi-pro. at best.

Doesn't this mean we could enter the Olympic Games the same as countries like Israel, Japan, Ghana or Mexico, whose players are certainly not fully amateur?

Having lived for some time in Ghana, I know for a fact that they also have a semi-professional set-up.

Just as in Australia, their players have jobs, but get payments for their soccer appearances, including fat bonuses for special matches.

Australia should concentrate on the Olympics instead of the World Cup because it is much easier to qualify.

I suggest we forget about the World Cup for the next eight years, but go for a berth in the Olympic finals instead.

I'm convinced that the Australian national team, even under-trained, would find it easier to qualify against countries of the calibre of Thailand, Indonesia, Ceylon or Iraq.

I doubt whether Australia would ever be ridiculed in Olympic competition, the standard of the Olympics being what it is now.

I urge the ASF to reconsider its puzzling Olympic ban and to lodge our entry for the 1972 Games immediately.

I'm sure no one would object to our participation, even if we are officially semi-professional.

Just how "amateur" are the Hungarian, Bulgarian or Czechoslovakian Olympians, anyhow?

Frank McCann, Burwood.

## District clubs

Though I hold no brief for the NSW Federation's Management Committee, I can only applaud their unsuccessful bid to remove clubs like Yugal and Polonia from the First Division.

These clubs, and others, have done nothing for soccer except perpetuate the foreign image of the code.

The Sydney First Division, with the exception of the big-drawing migrant

clubs like APIA and Pan Hellenic, should be an all-district affair.

The districts are crying out for representation in the First Division.

At the moment they are stagnating in the limbo of the Second Division while at least half a dozen worthless migrant clubs are squandering their privileged First Division status by doing nothing for a game which never stopped deteriorating since the district clubs were pushed out of First Division.

K. Laskie, Rockdale.

## Japanese lesson

I was thrilled with Japan's fine showing at the recent Olympic tournament.

The Japanese have worked so hard to establish soccer in their country that they richly deserve any success which comes their way.

What a lesson for Australia!

Despite a greater soccer tradition than Japan, we still don't rate internationally, and never will under our archaic set-up.

I am ready to bet, eleven months ahead, that Japan will qualify for the 1970 World Cup finals and go on to emulate North Korea's exploits in Mexico.

B. Purdue, Coogee Bay.

## Vote of thanks

Allow me to thank "Soccer World" for its splendid Olympic Games coverage.

Your coverage of the soccer tournament, an important section of the Olympics which went almost unnoticed in the daily press, was in keeping with the high standard you set in the 1965 World Cup qualifying matches in Cambodia, the 1966 World Cup finals in England, the Asian Games and this year's European Cup final at Wembley.

I had to write to tell you that there is at least one "Soccer World" reader who appreciates your efforts to keep soccer fans abreast of international events.

P. K. Krastny, Lindfield.

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— Alex Anderson in "The Times" of London.



# GERMANY'S BUNDESLIGA IS FACING BIG CRISIS

Has the shine rubbed off from Bundesliga — West Germany's five-year-old

what was once the immensely popular Bundesliga National League?

The following article, which appeared recently in the mass-circulation German weekly, STERN, speaks for itself.

Five years ago the Bundesliga was ushered in with tremendous enthusiasm and optimism.

For millions of German soccer lovers it was a dream come true: for the fans it meant top-class football, for the players greater financial inducements, for the clubs handsome profits.

Today the illusion has been shattered.

Most clubs face bankruptcy, dozens of players are suing their clubs for broken promises, and, more alarming, attendances have dwindled, spectators staying at home to enjoy the feast of soccer on television.

And all this because the clubs have been living above their means to pander to players largely unworthy of the huge payments they demand and have received until now.

## OVER-PAID

It's no secret that at least 25 Bundesliga players are paid more than a Federal cabinet minister.

In 1967-68 only the champions, FC Nurnberg, kept their heads above water.

For the other clubs last season was a disaster and all seem headed for greater ruin this season.

During four years, everything was rosy in the Bundesliga paradise.

The National League reaped a bonanza for the clubs and their star players: packed terraces, bulging pay envelopes. That was the life!

The fifth year of the Bundesliga swept all this aside. The dream has been shattered.

Just as with the West German economical miracle, the Bundesliga boom has become a thing of the past.

All the clubs have to show for in 1968 are debts, more debts and still more debts.

Theirs has become an increasingly losing battle to exist.

All the talk about victory, glory and fortune has stopped. Survival is their only goal.

In 1966-67, the average attendance per Bundesliga match stood at 23,000. Last season it fell to 18,000 and this season, after only a few rounds, it has slipped further to 15,000.

Some countries may envy us our average attendances, but a Bundesliga club needs an average home gate of 22,000 to exist.

Last season the total deficit of the 18 Bundesliga clubs was estimated at 3.8 million dollars.

Hamburger SV, though they reached the European Cup-Winners' Cup final were the hardest hit. Their unenviable lot was a staggering loss of \$800,000.

## DOGMATIC

Hannover no longer have any assets. Even their clubhouse has been mortgaged. The city's municipal council has refused them a loan and the club had to sink further in debt by securing loans at astronomical interest rates from private loan "sharks" who don't give two hoots about soccer.

MSV Duisburg and the two Munich clubs, which once always averaged 30,000 at home, are almost as badly off.

Their position can only worsen, especially that of Bayern and Munchen 1860 who must keep up appearances and bolster their teams continuously with big-name players to hold on even to the support they have left — even if it will ruin them in the process.

The DFB (West German Association) obstinately refuses to investigate or supervise this reckless spending.

All this august body does is to put forward dogmatic recommendations on how the clubs can get out of their self-inflicted troubles, but doesn't bother to take the stern action it is morally and legally — as per the Bundesliga constitution — entitled to.

Professionalism has dealt a death blow to most of the old established amateur clubs.

## TV BUGBEAR

Their players leave them in droves to seek adventure and fortune in the Bundesliga and most of their matches — in the regional leagues — are played before empty stands.

In the first four years, fans from regional teams switched their allegiance to the more glamorous Bundesliga outfits, resulting in the huge increase in attendances at all major grounds.

This, too, is a thing of the past now. Not that these fans have returned to wat-

ching their small-time teams, they haven't. They stay home instead, and watch the replays on television on Saturday night.

TV is the bugbear of the Bundesliga. Thousands stay away from games to spend their Saturdays pursuing other pleasures.

On the stroke of 7 p.m., however, 80 per cent of West German TV sets are switched on to the soccer replays — easily the most watched TV program in the country.

There the viewers see highlights of every match played in the afternoon.

Goals are shown in slow motion and the heroes of the round are interviewed.

Paradoxically, because of the soccer saturation on TV, the game has never been more popular in Germany.

Players have become household names, and we do mean household in the literal sense. TV has bred a new race of armchair spectators only lured to the grounds for the really important matches.

International "friendlies" have become a costly flop — a luxury the DFB can no longer afford.

## PROTESTS

People simply won't go to non-competitive international matches. Whereas any international 10 years ago would always draw a full house, officials consider themselves lucky if 25,000 turn up today.

Despite the clubs' vehement protests, the DFB is quite content to allow soccer to be televised at length.

The catch is that it has a \$700,000 contract with the TV stations, half of which is theirs and the balance is split up in equal parts between the 18 clubs.

So the DFB sits pretty with \$350,000 a year while all each club gets is less than \$20,000 — the equivalent of \$1,200 per home match.

Led by the president of Bayern Munchen, the Bundesliga clubs are planning a tumultuous revolt. They are demanding three times as much from TV in 1969-70.

The TV people, however, won't hear of it and are threatening to cut off soccer altogether if the clubs continue to press for a new deal.

The Bayern president, Herr Neudecker, is particularly incensed at the anomaly where players who appear on the popular soccer program "Golden Shot," which runs for an hour twice a week, get more money than the clubs.

"Golden Shot" pays out \$800,000 a year in players'

appearance fees. The clubs get less than half of that amount for their match telecasts!

No one in German soccer, however, is blind to the fact that TV alone is not to blame for all of soccer's ills. Far from it. The reason for the alarming slump is much nearer home. On the Bundesliga clubs' front door, in fact.

## SURVEY

A recent survey conducted by M.F.B., the country's leading public relations firm, revealed that TV was only one of the reasons people stayed away from games in increasing numbers.

Other reasons given were:

- The monotony of matches. Fans are bored to watch the same old faces week after week.

- The high admission charges for the poor quality of play, the sub-standard amenities, lack of covered stands and toilet facilities.

- The lack of parking space within walking distance of the main grounds.

- The big drop-out in women spectators, who in 1967-68 only accounted for two percent of the total Bundesliga attendance compared with 9 percent when the National League kicked off, and the seven percent which still turn up at regional league games.

As for the reasons why TV keeps people away, most of those interviewed in the survey said it was more comfortable to watch at home, even if they only saw highlights of matches.

By staying home they were at least assured to see a few minutes of a good match instead of taking the chance of spending an uncomfortable afternoon at what usually turns out to be uninteresting football.

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# UWE SAYS HE'S HAD ENOUGH...

The current international season isn't quite the same for millions of West German soccer fans.

Uwe Seeler, the living personification of their national team in the past decade, has announced his retirement from international football.

Seeler, 33, will no longer be available to play for his country.

The Hamburg forward started his international career against France in October 1954, two months after West Germany's sensational World Cup victory in Switzerland.

He played 59 times for West Germany and scored 38 goals.

Seeler granted an interview to Jacques Thibert of France's monthly "Football Magazine", which went as follows.

Q: Why have you retired from international football?

A: I've had enough. It's time to make room for younger players. I am aware that my selection in the national team was not totally justified in my last couple of outings for West Germany. I don't want to be a symbol and resent being selected just because of my name and reputation. If I can't earn a berth in the team on form alone, I prefer to stand down.

Q: What about club football?

A: I intend to keep on playing for Hamburger SV as long as I can. I think I can continue for at least another four years. Not having to worry about international matches should relieve the strain and enable me to carry on for my club for some time yet.



Q: How do you feel about German fans chanting your name "Uwe" to exhort the team?

A: Very humble. I don't take any credit for it, however. I just happened to be the form player in the national team after our 1954 World Cup win. Had it been another player, the fans would be shouting "Hans, Hans", "Peter, Peter" or "Klaus, Klaus" instead. Now that I've retired it will be interesting to see which player the crowds adopt because they can't keep shouting my name forever, can they?

Q: Which is the best team in which you have played?

A: The European XI which beat Yugoslavia 7-2 in Belgrade in 1966. This was a far better team than our German side in the 1966 World Cup final.

Q: The best player you've ever seen?

A: Eusebio. Whenever he nears the goal he seems to become ecstatic and it's difficult to dispossess him. Pele, strangely, never per-

formed that well whenever he played against me or whenever I saw him in action.

Q: Who were the teammates in Germany's forward-line with whom you developed the best understanding?

A: Klaus Sturmer; we found it easy to complete each other's moves on the field. I also struck up a good understanding with Helmut Rahn and Charly Doerfel.

Q: What was the greatest thrill of your soccer career?

A: The 1966 World Cup final, the 1958 World Cup in Sweden, but above all, I am positive, my "comeback" World Cup elimination match in Stockholm against Sweden after my operation in 1965.

Q: Your greatest disappointment?

A: To have been only a substitute in the FIFA team which played England at Wembley in 1963 to mark the English FA's centenary. I was only brought in 20 minutes from the end in the place of Kopa.

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## ROUND THE WORLD

### Cramer stays with FIFA

Dettmar Cramer, who managed the FIFA XI against Brazil in Rio three weeks ago, declined a \$60,000 offer to join the Fluminense club. His contract with FIFA binds him until June 30, 1970. Cramer, now in Central America, is headed for Egypt early next year, and there is also some talk he may spend a couple of months in Oceania (Australia?) in the middle of next year.

### Greaves' record

So far in his 11 seasons in League football, Jimmy Greaves has always been his club's top scorer — with Chelsea first, later with Tottenham. And it looks like the 11 becoming 12 as Greaves is currently top scorer in the whole League.

### Referees end strike

The referees' strike which paralysed Uruguayan soccer for three weeks ended last week when the First Division clubs withdrew their motion to appoint referees for competition matches themselves. Referees will continue to be appointed by a panel of referee inspectors and FA executives (as in Sydney).

### Argentinian enthusiasm kills

One spectator was killed and six seriously injured last week when they fell off a stand at the stadium of Rosario Central, the Argentinian First Division club, during a match against Estudiantes de la Plata, the Intercontinental Cup winners. The accident occurred after Rosario scored the last goal of their 3-0 victory over the unofficial world club champions. The over-enthusiastic spectators lost their balance, falling to their death from a section of a stand which had no railing.

### City in trouble

Will history repeat itself? In 1937 Manchester City won the League championship — and were relegated the next year. They won the title again last year — and are in a poor position near the bottom.

### African Champions' Cup

The fourth African Champions' Cup has reached the semifinal stage. The semifinalists are Etoile Filante (French for "Shooting Star") of Togo, Englebert of Congo Kinshasa, Abaluya FC of Kenya and FAR, Morocco's armed forces club. The Kenyans from Abaluya have been the revelation of the current series and are strongly fancied to fight out the final with the reigning African champions, Englebert.

### Puskas is back

Ferenc Puskas is back in Madrid after the collapse of the North American Soccer League. Though his contract with Canada's Vancouver Royals ran until 1970 Puskas has had enough of the chaotic North American set-up. He has harsh words for North American football, which he describes as "one huge circus". Soccer, says Puskas, will never catch on in the States or in Canada as long as they rely solely on foreign "mercenaries" whose only interest is to make a fast buck. Puskas is now looking for a coaching appointment in Spain and is strongly tipped to join a leading provincial club before Christmas.

### Stoke sell-out

Stoke City, facing a financial crisis, are prepared to release some players. Two stars who may soon leave are George Eastham and Roy Vernon, neither of whom is any longer a regular in the first team.

### America wants Kamamoto

Offers are still pouring in for the services of Japan's Kamamoto, the top goalscorer at the Olympic Games. The latest club to show interest in Japan's match-winning centre-forward is the wealthy America of Mexico, reported to have offered Kamamoto a \$40,000 signing-on fee. Though Kamamoto decided to stay amateur until the World Cup he will have further talks with America when he tours Mexico with Japan in March next year.

**D**r. Kaser, Secretary-General of FIFA, said in a special interview that the standard of the Olympic Soccer Tournament in Mexico was the highest ever — much higher, he said, than four years ago in Tokyo. He also defended the referee of the final, Diego De Leo, blaming the Bulgarian players for the disturbances.

● Popluhar (Slovak Bratislava) and Pospichal (Slavia Prague), two of the famous Czech stars who visited Australia in recent years, will join French clubs. Popluhar will play for Lyon and Pospichal for Rouen.

● Arne Soerensen, who coached Boldklub Copenhagen to another Danish league title, has gone to Sweden to manage Helsingborg.

● Kubala is tipped to become Atletico Bilbao's new coach. Now that the North American Professional League has folded, the former Toronto player-coach is out of work.

● Helenio Herrera's AS Roma will play three matches in Spain during the Christmas-New Year holidays, at Elche, Malaga and Seville.

● The 1969 European and Champions' Cup final will be staged on May 28 at Madrid's Bernabeu Stadium.

● The UEFA, Europe's ruling soccer body, has formed a technical committee, the members of which are top coaches Busby (England), Munoz (Spain), Katchalin (USSR), Wade (Scotland) and Schoen (West Germany).

● Ace Russian goalie, Lev Yashin, spent an additional two weeks in Brazil after the FIFA v. Brazil gala match as guest of the Flamengo club.

● U.T.A. Arad are the "autumn champions" of Rumania. At the halfway mark of the competition they have a one-point lead over University Craiova. The Rumanian championship is now in its annual winter recess.

● Gornik Zabrze lead at the half-way mark of the Polish championship. The Cup is now the centre of interest for Polish soccer fans. The early rounds provided many shock results, five First Division clubs being bowled over.

● Mario Gonelli of Italy became the first foreign referee to officiate at a Yugoslav club match when he took charge of the recent Partizan v. Dinamo Zagreb game in Belgrade.

● Eire and Denmark will meet in a World Cup elimination match in Dublin on December 4. Following Eire's 2-2 draw with Austria, the Irish are hot favorites to start their World Cup campaign on a winning note.

● Sudan defeated Zambia 4-2 in an African zone World Cup elimination match last week. Zambia had won the first leg at Lusaka four weeks ago by the same score.

● In the Fair Cities' Cup, Legia Warsaw (Poland) qualified for the next round by defeating Waregem (Belgium) 2-0.

● Estudiantes de la Plata, the World club "champions", will soon release their coach, Oswaldo Zubeldia, who will join either Boca Juniors, San Lorenzo or Velez Sarsfield.

● The top three coaches in Cyprus, whose football is improving, are Englishman Franklin, the former USSR skipper, Igor Netto, and the Hungarian Zsengeller.

● Wembley Stadium is to get a new turf and a more modern drainage system. Both will be in place for the FA Cup final in May.

● A Gallup poll in Italy revealed that 37% of Italians have an attachment for Inter Milan. Then come Juventus (28%), Napoli (10%) and AS Roma and AC Milan (5% each).

● Omar Sivori made a surprise comeback for Napoli. After an eight-month absence, he played against Leeds in the Fair Cities' Cup — and lost 2-0.

● Yet another Czech coach has settled in Austria: he is Frantisek Korcek, now with newly promoted Donauwitz.

● George Yardley of Tranmere Rovers is the second highest goalscorer in the English Third Division.

● Joe Baker is adamant that he will leave Nottingham Forest.

● West Midlands League club Stourbridge have made a bid for former England star Derek Kevan.

● England will go on a long South American tour next year and play in Uruguay, Brazil and Mexico.

● In December and January, Mexico will be hosts to West Germany, Bulgaria, Italy and Denmark for friendly matches.

● Rudolf Vytalil, coach of Vienna's Rapid, is ill in hospital. He is being temporarily replaced by Karl Decker, the former Austrian national coach.

● Gavril Katchalin, re-appointed as Russian national coach, says he wants to improve the combinative ability of his players.

● This season every Arsenal match is filmed in full and shown to the players the following Wednesday. Arsenal is the first British club to follow this policy which is wide-spread in West Germany.

● Yugoslavia's crack international, Osim, from Sarajevo, underwent a cartilage operation and will be out of action until March. Osim was seriously hurt during the violent World Cup elimination match in Brussels against Belgium last month.

● Gianni Rivera, the great Italian forward, has just published a second book, entitled "From Korea to the Quirinale". As the title suggests, the book encompasses his career between Italy's catastrophic 1966 World Cup and his decoration by the President of Italy at the Quirinale Palace after Italy's European Championship win this year.

● The East German national team will undertake an Asian tour during the winter break. The Germans, who had hoped to visit Australia too, will play in India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Cambodia in January.

● Nepomucky, the halfback from Slavia Prague whom we saw in Australia exactly one year ago, is negotiating with three Dutch clubs as is Sparta Prague's ace goalscorer, Mraz.

● Fenerbahce, Turkey's glamor club, is having a lean time this season. After eight rounds the Istanbul club is second last on the table, already eight points behind the current First Division leaders, Galatasaray.

### Dynamo Kiev's treble

Dynamo Kiev have won the Soviet championship for the third consecutive year, equalling the feat of Army Moscow, winners in 1946, 47 and 1948. Though there are still three rounds to go, the Ukrainians can't be overtaken either by Spartak Moscow or Torpedo Moscow.

### Race hotting up

The championship race is still open in Hungary. In the last round Ujpest dropped a valuable point to Vasas while Ferencvaros' game was called off after 66 minutes against Diosgyor, at 2-1, because of snow and fog. Ujpest have a superior goal average and Ferencvaros can win the championship only if, in the remaining four rounds — plus their replay against Diosgyor — they don't drop any points.

## SCOREBOARD

**WORLD CUP (Qualifying rounds):** Algeria v. Tunisia 1-2 (Algiers); Rumania v. Switzerland 2-0; Cyprus v. West Germany 0-1 (Nicosia).

**EUROPEAN CUP (Second round, first leg):** Reipas Lahti (Finland) v. Spartak Trnava (Czechoslovakia) 1-9; Rapid Vienna (Austria) v. Real Madrid (Spain) 1-0.

**FAIR CITIES' CUP (Second round, first leg):** Panathinaikos (Greece) v. Atletico Bilbao (Spain) 0-0; Hamburger SV (West Germany) v. Slavia Prague (Czechoslovakia) 4-1. **Second leg:** Ujpest (Hungary) v. Aris Salonika (Greece) 9-1 (Ujpest won 11-2 on aggregate); OFK Belgrade (Yugoslavia) v. Bologna (Italy) 1-1 (OFK Belgrade won 2-1 on aggregate); Lokomotive Leipzig (East Germany) v. Hibernian (Scotland) 0-2 (Hibernian won 4-1 on aggregate); Newcastle United v. Sporting Lisbon (Portugal) 1-0 (Newcastle Utd. won 2-1 on aggregate).

**BULGARIA:** Lokomotiva Sofia v. Spartak Sofia 2-1; Slavia Sofia v. Spartak Pleven 2-0; Beroe v. Chernomorets 1-2; Botev Vratsa v. Trakia 5-1; Dobroudja v. Marek 2-0; Lokomotiva Plovdiv v. Chernomorets 2-2; Miners v. Donnav 1-1; CSKA v. Levski 2-7. **Table:** CSKA 21; Levski 19; Lokomotiva Plovdiv, Slavia Sofia 18 pts.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA:** Zilina v. Lokomotiva 1-2; Sparta v. Trnava 3-1; Ostrava v. Trencin 1-0; Kosice v. Banska 4-2; Teplice v. Dukla 2-0; Pardubice v. Slavia 2-0. **Table:** Trnava 15; Ostrava 13; Kosice, Lokomotiva 12.

**FRANCE:** Bastia v. St. Etienne 1-1; Nice v. Rouen 2-2; Nimes v. Valenciennes 2-2; Red Star v. Sochaux 2-2; Bordeaux v. Nantes 1-1; Strasbourg v. Marseille 1-2; Lyon v. Monaco 2-0; Rennes v. Ajaccio 5-0; Metz v. Sedan 0-1.

**GREECE:** AEK v. Panionios 2-1; Olympiakos v. Ethnikos 4-2; Vyzas v. Panathinaikos 1-1; Apollon v. Trikala 5-0; Heraklis v. Aris 4-0; Veria v. Limassol 2-0; Egaleo v. Ofi 1-0; Panserraikos v. Haklis 3-1; Pierikos v. PAOK 3-1.

**HOLLAND:** Telstar v. Holland Sport 1-3; Twente v. Volendam 1-0; Feyenoord v. DOS 2-0; MVV v. Ajax 2-2; DWS Fortuna v. Sittardia 1-0; PSV v. Sparta 1-1; AZ '67 v. NAC 2-0; ADO v. Go Ahead 1-1; NEC v. GVVAV 2-0.

**HUNGARY:** Csepel v. Szombathely 2-0; Vasas v. Ujpest 1-1; MTK v. Pecs 1-1; Honved v. Tatabanya 6-1; Dunaujvaros v. Egyetertes 1-1; Videoton v. SBTC 0-1; Győr v. Szeged 2-1. The Diosgyor v. Ferencvaros match was abandoned at 1-2 because of weather conditions. **Table:** Ujpest 40; Ferencvaros 39; Vasas 32 pts.

**ITALY:** Bologna v. AC Milan 1-0; Cagliari v. Torino 1-0; Inter Milan v. Fiorentina 1-2; Juventus v. Pisa 2-0; Vicenza v. Napoli 2-0; Palermo v. Varese 1-1; Sampdoria v. Atalanta 0-0; Verona v. AS Roma 2-0.

**PORTUGAL:** CUF v. Benfica 3-0; Sporting v. Braga 3-0; Academica v. Porto 2-4; Guimaraes v. Belenenses 2-0; Atletico v. Setubal 0-1; Varzim v. Sanjoanense 3-2; Leixoes v. Tomar 1-2.

**RUMANIA:** UT Arad v. Farul Constantza 0-2; University Craiova v. Progresul Bucharest 2-0; University Cluj v. Jiul Petroseni 3-1; Petrolul Ploesti v. Dinamo Bucharest 1-0; Vagonul Arad v. Arges Pitesti 3-1; Mures v. Crisul Oradea 1-0; Steaua Bucharest v. Iassy 1-2; Rapid Bucharest v. Dinamo Bacau 3-0. **Table:** UT Arad 20; University Craiova 19; Mures, Farul Constantza, Petrolul Ploesti, Iassy 15 pts.

**SPAIN:** Granada v. Malaga 2-0; Real Sociedad v. Cordoba 5-1; Barcelona v. Espanol 1-0; Zaragoza v. Elche 0-2; Pontevedra v. Real Madrid 0-0; Valencia v. Atletico Bilbao 5-1; Atletico Madrid v. Coruna 5-1.

**YUGOSLAVIA:** OFK Belgrade v. Olimpija 1-0; Partizan v. Sarajevo 1-1; Zeljeznicar v. Red Star 2-2; Zagreb v. Radnicki 1-0; Hajduk v. Proleter 1-1; Bor v. Vojvodina 1-0; Maribor v. Dinamo Zagreb 1-4; Rijeka v. Vardar 1-0; Velez v. Celik 1-1.



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## MELBOURNE PAGE...

EDITED BY BOB LOW

## STATE LEAGUE STARS GET ANNUAL AWARDS

These are my end-of-season "awards" for Melbourne players:

**Best State League player:** Jimmy Rooney (Lions).

This 21-year-old from Dundee infused some much

## COSTLY INJURIES

Although State League soccer was free from "leg breaks" in 1968 and six clubs had no serious injuries to first team players, the same cannot be said of the other half dozen sides all of whom suffered, some more so than others, with the loss of key players at a vital stage of the season.

Their list:

**SLAVIA:** lost ace centre half Billy Cook half-way through the season with cartilage trouble which required an operation and kept the former Victorian and Australia player on the touchline for the rest of the season.

Late in the year Slavia acquired from overseas Alan McBain, a full-back who had been a first team regular with Swansea Town, Carlisle United and Luton Town for seven years, and in his couple of outings he showed real class before being forced to retire for the rest of the season with a neck injury sustained in his second appearance.

**MELBOURNE** were the hardest hit side of the lot.

Right from the kick-off they lost goalie Henri Surma with an arm injury which prevented him turning out for the rest of the year.

His deputy, Tom Gerrard, also fell victim to injury but reappeared after a few weeks.

The biggest loss was obviously the absence for most of the season through a leg injury of centre half Alistair Scott, who captained their State League championship side and their Australia Cup-winning team of 1967.

**POLONIA** were another early season victim. Kaz Kowalec, who was appointed player-coach of the side at the start of 1968, broke his arm and had to be content in prompting his side from the touchline.

**ALEXANDER**, through the loss of crackshot winger Jimmy Mangopoulos three weeks before the end of the league season with a severe leg injury, suffered a devastating blow.

**HAKOAH**, with the late season injury to Dick Van Alphen, in their closing matches of the Australia Cup, were definitely weakened in defence.

needed class into the Lions' attack.

His brilliant ball control and ability to set up tailor-made passes for his forward colleagues brought heartache to many defences.

This as well as his untiring efforts for a full 90 minutes of every game played a major part in his team's highest ever position on the State League ladder besides winning him both major player awards.

**Best defender:** Frank Micic (Hellas).

After his transfer from JUST he took some time to settle and produce his best among a mixture of Greek and British players.

However, once he got in top gear early in the league season and reverted to his normal position as wing half instead of a deep lying forward, he reproduced the form which has earned him over the years the title of the most constructive wing half in State League soccer.

Now edging his way to 30 appearances for Victoria, he also played for Australia on their Far East tour of 1967.

**Outstanding striker:** Nick McCallum (George Cross).

This product of the Scottish Highland League joined George Cross at the start of the league season and soon made his presence felt.

A real go-getter, opportunist and top State League scorer, he can surely justify the claim he is the top striker.

Still only 22, he won several games almost single-handed for George Cross.

With his terrific energy, enthusiasm and will to score, he could even have improved his tally of goals had he been playing in an attack which was less chopped and changed about.

**Outstanding full-back:** David Kelly (Hellas).

An Englishman who arrived almost unannounced to Slavia four years ago, he had several first team games for the Port Melbourne club but

was mostly seen in the colors of the reserves.

Nearly three years ago Hellas, realising his value and in desperate need for a full-back, bought Kelly for a song.

Since then he has never looked back and held his place continuously as a first team regular.

Not classy, not even showy — but one hundred percent effective.

**Best imports:**

● **Alan Reed (Slavia).** A Londoner who was at one time on the books of Tottenham Hotspur and later played five years with Romford Town. An attacking wing half who can turn in a sound performance at both full-back and inside forward.

● **David Gorrie (SM-Hellas).** One time on the books of Everton, later played with Stockport County and Runcorn United, this inside forward who joined his club late in the season is a player to watch in 1969.

● **Bobby Thomson (Wilhelmina).** A Scot who played with Partick Thistle, Liverpool and Luton Town, this utility defender who vies between the full-back and wing half position brought much steadiness to his club's defence.

● **Josef Zurawski (Polonia).** A former top grade player from Poland, this experienced stopper filled a long felt need at centre half and had a big say in his team's sound defensive record.

● **Peter Davies (Croatia).** A "Taffy", he played in Welsh non-league soccer. he is an adaptable forward, smart and dangerous in front of goal.

● **John Gardiner (George Cross).** Another product of the Dundee juniors who played with East Fife. This inside forward has plenty of potential to be a top player in State League soccer.

**Best transferred player:** Bob Connelly (Melbourne to Juventus).

Yet another product of the Dundee juniors.

Played a leading part in Melbourne's State League title win and Australia Cup success of 1967 and sold for a reported \$4,500 fee to Juventus early this season.

**Best veteran player:** Frank Bot (Croatia).

Although he turns out with number five on his back in Croatia's 4-2-4 system, Bot, now 32, is a left back.

Still playing with the zest and zeal of a youngster, his exploits as an attacking full-back are seen at least several times a season when he captivates the fans with his dash for goal.

Recently opened his own business (see advertisement on this page).

## AMPOL CUP ON JAN. 10

The \$2,000 Ampol Cup starts in Melbourne on Friday, January 10.

All double-headers will be played on Friday nights at Olympic Park, starting at 7.45 p.m.

The eight competing teams (the top eight placings on the 1968 State League table) will be:

Group "A" — Croatia, SM-Hellas, Lions, Wilhelmina; Group "B" — Polonia, Hakoah, George Cross, Slavia.

The draw up to February 14 is — January 10: Polonia v. Slavia, Croatia v. Hellas; January 17: Lions v. Wilhelmina, George Cross v. Hakoah; January 24: Croatia v. Lions, Polonia v. George Cross; January 31: Hakoah v. Slavia, Hellas v. Wilhelmina; February 7: George Cross v. Slavia, Croatia v. Wilhelmina; February 14: Hakoah v. Polonia, Hellas v. Lions.

## LION'S SHARE

USC Lion used a new British import in their line-up last Saturday when they defeated Budapest 5-2 at Hart Reserve.

The newcomer, Derek Lawson, 29, from Northern League club Southshield United, deputised for regular stopper, John Cattanach.

Lawson, normally a mid-field player, could be a real acquisition when he is fully fit.

The most interested spectator at the trial game was Lion's newly appointed coach, Alan Whittle.

Whittle, who is president of the SA Federation of Soccer Coaches, will be in charge of all levels of coaching in the club.

The former Exeter City player and English Football Association coaching school graduate has succeeded Johnny Baines.

Baines was outstanding in his new solo role as a player in Saturday's game.

He obviously relished casting aside the dual responsibility of captain-coach and will doubtless be a more valuable player next season.

## ADELAIDE NEWS

## English imports start off on wrong foot

— From ALLAN CRISP —

Seven English migrants from Sunderland who came here to bask in Australia's social life and earn money by playing soccer have started on the wrong foot.

The Englishmen — Tom Hall, Peter Graham, Colin Teer, Ken Pickering, Bob Wilkie, Ron Allan and Ron White — were each fined \$10 by the SA Federation for signing registration forms for two different clubs.

They signed for Juventus and Burnside-Budapest with Juventus being first to lodge the registration forms with the Federation.

The players were then instructed to appear at the Federation office to indicate to secretary, Len Willmer which club they wished to sign for.

All played for Juventus in a charity trial game against a team loaded with State players.

Only three of the newcomers — Hall, Graham and White — looked First Division material and Juventus were reported to have put them under contract.

The signing of Cumberland's State squad stopper, Marty Moore by Juventus is regarded as a formality since Cumberland have said that they don't want to keep the promising youngster out of First Division.

Meanwhile, Croatia have

rejected all the seven Croatian migrants who were expected to bolster their side.

Croatia coach, Charlie Welker, watched the newcomers in action, but wasn't impressed.

However, Croatia are hopeful of securing two outstanding Yugoslav players.

Beograd - Woodville is another club intent on building their playing strength for 1969.

They refused a Juventus offer for Mitia Marusic.

"We aim to buy players not sell them," said Beograd chairman, Ron Saddler.

He showed that he meant business by signing Birkalla goalkeeper, Todd Clarke.

A former SA junior star, Clarke will be understudy to Charlie Horvath.

Beograd are also on the track of two big-name players who may be signed soon.

Austria, who used Azzurri players, Johnny Chiappin, David Lindsay, Campbell Bracken and Dave Howlett to help them qualify for the Ampol Cup have also secured transfers for Aniello Carbone and Antonio Martella.

## 1968 review

● (Continued from Page 2)

Unless the States, through their ASF delegates, show more wisdom, these mistakes will be repeated in 1969.

Australia's immaturity in international soccer affairs was once again evident during 1968.

**The national team received only the scantiest preparation for the series against Japan — and has not been heard of since March.**

Although we did send a delegate to Seoul to map out Australia's World Cup grouping and then two other delegates to Guadalajara to the FIFA Congress, we are not one iota closer to our big dream — reaching the final 16.

Why? Simply because fixing arrangements and working out a national team policy are two different things, demanding different approaches and sacrifices.

Australia has yet to reach the stage where leading club or Federation officials can think in global terms, where any of them can put country before club.

Until that happens, we must forget our international ambitions and aspirations.

What can one expect from 1969? No miracles, for one thing.

On the domestic front the Executive as well as the clubs must make every possible effort to maintain the boom — despite the increased admission charges.

**Better promotions, more attention to the needs of the public, better standard soccer — these are the basic ingredients that can keep the boom going.**

All those even remotely concerned with soccer's administration must at all times be careful not to damage the game's public image.

This can only be done if we keep our domestic arguments within the family — or, even better, reduce these arguments to a bare minimum.

## Adelaide clubs are conservative

— From ALLAN CRISP —

SA soccer clubs are plainly not interested in participating in any unofficial inter-city league.

This fact was made crystal clear when I sought the opinions of Adelaide officials regarding the proposed rebel Sydney - Melbourne inter-city league.

Most clubs agreed that they would dearly like to be part of a National League but all expressed the same sentiment that above all

such a step would have to be approved by the ASF.

One official blamed the ASF for the current situation.

"It has done nothing positive, nor said anything positive about a National League so the Sydney and Melbourne clubs are taking matters into their own hands," he said.

"No doubt, the ASF has investigated all aspects of forming such a league but has decided that Australia isn't yet ready.

"Unfortunately, however, no official statement has been made," he added.

The official Sydney-Melbourne clash of Ampol Cup winners is seen in Adelaide as a progressive step, but most Adelaide officials expressed disappointment that the local Ampol Cup champions were not invited to compete in a triangular competition.

## Opening Announcement

BY

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**Second Division reviewed**

# AUBURN TOOK OUT HONORS IN PROMOTION YEAR

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

**Auburn won promotion this season after only one year in the wilderness of the lower Division.**

Although the margin at the end of the competition was only one point, which reflects the see-saw battle with the other clubs for supremacy, Auburn's real threat was mainly from Bankstown.

Auburn took the honors because of a steady defence that, throughout a full season never put a foot wrong. Led by experienced Clive Thomson and backed by up and coming youngsters Alex Smith and Russell Haggett, it formed an impregnable wall which held on against all pressures and enabled the team to take out the "grand slam."

However, if Auburn want to stay in First Division, they need to be strengthened considerably; otherwise they are sure to meet Manly's fate at the end of the 1969 season.

Both coach John Nowacki, who moulded the available talent so effectively and club officials realise this and approaches have been made to several players in Sydney, interstate and overseas.

Auburn are now fully backed by a strong social club and financially they are better off than ever before.

Although they have a lease of Mona Park, the club has announced earlier a more ambitious plan to develop 13 acres just south of Mona Park into a modern stadium with the most up to date facilities and equipment.

## West's were almost best

Western Suburbs had their best season since their formation and missed the 1968 promotion honors by only one single point, finishing second to Auburn.

A slow start early in the season caused the team to drop valuable points and the run of successes in the latter stages was too late to overcome the wide gap to catch the leaders.

At the end of May, West's were in sixth position and in June the team started their run of nine consecutive wins which put them in the first four and eventually in second place.

Only the 3-2 loss to Bankstown stopped the club from winning promotion; this was a typical "old rivals" battle with the result in balance until the final few minutes.

West's recorded the highest scoring amongst Second Division clubs with 63 goals and young centre-forward Greg Woods was the club's first-team leading scorer with 17 while Peter Pont scored 13.

Leading scorer within the club was promising youngster Julia Botta, with 28 goals, who was a member of the third grade side which won the premiership.

West's "find" of the year was 18-year-old halfback Giuliano De Santi who started the season in third grade but finished playing the latter part of the season in first grade.

Despite his inexperience, he was an outstanding link in the team's solid half-back line, led by the most outstanding performer in Division II — Johnny Bijkerk.

Recently, a soccer committee was formed to work in with the manager and soccer secretary in handling soccer policy within the club.

The three men appointed and who are already mapping plans for the 1969 season are ex-international Albert De Paoli, C.H.S. Soccer Convenor Rod Weiss and Frank Clarke.

Fulltime soccer secretary George Streeter was surprisingly sacked only last week; his successor has not yet been named.

Negotiations to acquire a home ground — a long standing ambition — are still in progress and if successful, this could help West's aim to further the code of soccer at all levels.

By the time the 1969 season starts, West's will be geared up, ready for their best year yet — and may be able to live up to the words of the club's theme song: "WE THE THE WEST, WE ARE THE BEST..."

## Bankstown blew up

Bankstown United, a promotion "certainty" almost all the way, could not stand the pressure and had to be content with third position — same as the previous season.

Somehow, the team lost all the zest it had at the beginning of the season and towards the end lost valuable points against Balgownie, Marconi and Auburn, completely demoralising their spirit and confidence.

This was evident in the semifinals when they failed to impress and finished up at the bottom of the ladder in the round-robin tournament.

Unfortunately, the team was hit by injuries at the wrong moments and despite the inclusion of some of Sydney's most promising youngsters, it was unable to stem the turn of the tide which cost promotion and caused so much disappointment.

There's no doubt that the

club will be a main contender for the Second Division Championship next season and planning has already started to achieve this aim.

The club has already appointed a new coach in Roy Smith, a former West Ham United first grader and an FA certificate holder.

The present coach, Nelson Stuffle, is understood also to be retained to coach junior teams in the district.

Further improvements will be made to the home ground at Bankstown Soccer Centre which is already equipped for night games.

The annual general meeting of the club will be held early next month and new officers will be elected.

## Sutherland are poised

Sutherland Shire Soccer Club, for the second year in succession, reached the semifinals occupying the fourth spot with two points to spare.

This was a little better than the dramatic finish the previous season when they snatched that position only on goal average.

The team performed rather erratically during the season with some very impressive displays against strong opposition, and at times failing miserably against much weaker teams.

Nevertheless, they always stuck to playing intelligent, crowd-pleasing football and hardly ever resorted to a rough and negative style.

During 1968, the team was hard hit by injuries, mostly in the goalkeeping department which probably accounts for the 34 goals conceded during the competition.

An all-out bid will be made by the club to win promotion to First Division and with this in mind, the club hopes to sign at least four new first-class players to reinforce the team.

In this, the club has the backing of the vast Junior Association and the licensed club who are ready to help to ensure that this is realised in 1969.

Membership of the club in the past year has trebled and with very stable finances, the club is spending a considerable amount on improving Seymour Shaw Park, Miranda, and the whole playing area has already been returned.

The club is considering a flood of applications for the appointment of a new coach and it is almost certain that a Sydney First Division player, whose name I was told in confidence, will get the job. (Latest: Mike Johnson (ex-Croatia) is the man).

# NEPEAN IS SLOWLY JELLING TOGETHER

— By Keith Gilmour —

## WITH THE AMATEURS

**Eight years ago very few soccer balls were kicked in the Nepean district, which takes in Blacktown, Penrith, St. Marys, and the lower Blue Mountains.**

This year 3,006 players were registered, 600 more than in 1967, and the sky's the limit for 1969.

The main clubs and their team numbers are:

St. Marys Band 9, Blacktown Spurs 21, Blue Mountains 13, Glenbrook Baptist 8, Kingswood-Cambridge Park 10, Penrith RSL 10, Riverstone 8, Rooty Hill RSL 11, St. Dominics 5, Blacktown Spartan 22, St. Marys Convent 10, Springwood 9 and St. Marys 15.

Nepean Association, guided by L. Peddle as president and George Churchward as secretary, is working to develop the district on all fronts.

Meetings were held this year with Inter-Suburban clubs St. Marys, Penrith, and Blacktown. The design was to have one major district club.

Although abortive at this stage, there is a growing awareness that even such a big area can only support one major district club, and the matter will be explored further.

The Association is building its representative junior sides.

It is aiming to develop its own park at Kingswood, and proposes to immediately set up its social club committee.

Nepean is now putting in a lot of work to help the Upper Blue Mountains.

In spite of the travelling distance involved, North Katoomba were well represented by four teams.

Twenty-five coaches passed the "basic skills course", held by the Coaches Federation last February.

Even at this stage of the year a big complement of school and youth players are attending a weekly coaching course being conducted by Harry Hill.

Aldermen throughout the area have been well canvassed this year to impress upon them the need for more soccer grounds to cope with the numbers of youngsters wishing to play the code.

More grounds are vital in Blacktown particularly, and 1969 should see a big improvement in this regard.

For such a young area it was a great honor to have two teams through to the "Champion of Champions" finals.

St. Marys Band club under 16s and Rooty Hill RSL under 13s were the teams involved.

Referees' president D. Renne and his men have worked hard to establish a bigger pool of cadet referees, who should be an even bigger asset next year.

We look forward to recording soon that Nepean has chalked up its 200th team. Meanwhile, here are the 1968 winners:

**League competitions:**

U/6 Blue: Penrith RSL.

U/6 Red: Kingswood-Cambridge Park.

U/7 Blue: Penrith RSL and Blue Mountains.

U/7 Red: Rooty Hill RSL.

U/8A: Blacktown Spartan.

U/8B: Rooty Hill RSL.

U/8C: White Eagles, Marayong.

U/9A: Blacktown Spartan.

U/9B: Blacktown Spartan.

U/9C: Blacktown Spurs.

U/10A: Blacktown Spartan.

U/10B: Blue Mountains.

U/10C: Glenbrook Baptist.

U/11A: St. Marys SSC.

U/11B: St. Marys Band Club.

U/12A: St. Marys SSC.

U/12B: St. Marys Convent.

U/13A: Rooty Hill RSL.

U/13B: Blacktown Spurs.

U/14: Blacktown Spartan.

U/15: Blacktown Spurs.

U/16: St. Marys Band Club.

All Age "A": Riverstone SC.

All Age "B": St. Marys Convent.

**Knock out winners:**

U/6: Blacktown Spurs.

U/7: St. Marys Convent.

U/8: Blacktown Spartan.

U/9: Blacktown Spartan.

U/10: Blacktown Spurs.

U/11: St. Marys SSC.

U/12: Blacktown Spurs.

U/13: Rooty Hill RSL.

U/14: St. Marys Band Club.

U/15: Blacktown Spurs.

U/16: Blacktown Spurs.

All Age: Riverstone SC.

**Dunbar Trophy:** White Eagles, Marayong.

**Grangeville are still growing**

Grangeville, one of Sydney's biggest, oldest, and strongest soccer associations, fielded 294 teams in 1968.

Guildford was Number One club numerically with 27 teams.

Other big clubs include North Rocks, Auburn, Grangeville Waratah and Grangeville Kewpie.

The Association is still growing considerably, with the biggest growth recorded amongst its younger clubs.

Lynwood Park, from the Seven Hills district, went from 5 to 9 teams, Pendle Hill from 5 to 11, and Guildford from 5 to 13.

Lidcombe Waratah under-13 was one of the big successes of the junior grades.

Lidcombe won the Grangeville league championship, and became Sydney's best under-13 side by winning the "Champion of Champions" competition.

Eleven of the team's players were selected for the under-13 Grangeville representative team, which went on to win the Metropolitan and State titles.

Congratulations to coach George Whaley and manager Jack Ashwood on the fine

results achieved by their young charges.

In other representative grades Granville won the Sydney under-21 title, which also made them State champions, and the under 12s were runners-up in the Sydney under 12s.

For 1969 Granville will again be in the hands of proven administrators.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Packer will again hold office as president and secretary respectively.

Most main office-holders have been returned, although Eddie Abbot replaces long-time worker Eric Roper as junior vice president.

The competition winners are shown below, with round robin winners in brackets where this was held for the particular grade.

**Senior 1:** Granville Waratah (both).

**Senior 2:** Guildford Cubs (Parramatta RSL).

**U/18:** North Rocks (both).

**U/16:** Guildford.

**U/15 1:** Guildford (Auburn Sports).

**U/15 2:** Pendle Hill (Seven Hills).

**U/14 1:** Granville Waratah (both).

**U/14 2:** Wentworthville (both).

**U/14 3:** Baulkham Hills (both).

**U/13 1:** Lidcombe.

**U/13 2:** Rydalmere.

**U/13 3:** Auburn.

**U/12 1:** Dundas (both).

**U/12 2:** Granville Waratah (Seven Hills).

**U/12 3:** Dundas (both).

**U/14 4:** Ermington.

**U/11 1:** Dundas "A" (Dundas "B").

**U/11 2:** Rydalmere (both).

**U/11 3:** Guildford (both).

**U/11 4:** Dundas.

**U/10 1:** Guildford.

**U/10 2:** North Rocks (Ermington).

**U/10 3:** Baulkham Hills (both).

**U/10 4:** Lynwood Park.

**U/9 1:** Seven Hills.

**U/9 2:** Granville Waratah.

**U/9 3:** Guildford Cubs.

**U/8 1:** St. Johns (Guildford).

**U/8 2:** Seven Hills (Seven Hills and Dundas).

**U/8 3:** Wentworthville (both).

**U/8 4:** Seven Hills (both).

**U/7 Red:** Wentworthville (both).

**U/7 Green:** Castle Hill RSL (both).

**U/7 Black:** Seven Hills (both).

**U/7 White:** Lynwood Park.

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